

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-34. Canceled

35. (Original) A washing apparatus that sprays a fluid supplied from a water supply source on a portion to be washed, comprising:

a heat exchanger that heats the fluid supplied from said water supply source;

a spray device that is connected to the downstream of said heat exchanger, to spray the fluid supplied from said heat exchanger on said portion to be washed; and

a flow rate adjuster that adjusts the flow rate of the fluid supplied to said heat exchanger such that in an operation for washing said heat exchanger, the flow rate of the fluid supplied to said heat exchanger is higher than that at the time of an operation for washing said portion to be washed by said spray device.

36. (Original) The washing apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said flow rate adjuster adjusts the flow rate of the fluid supplied to said heat exchanger at the time of the operation for washing the portion to be washed by said spray device.

37. (Original) The washing apparatus according to claim 35, further comprising

a main flow path that introduces the fluid into the spray device,

a sub-flow path that introduces the fluid into a portion other than said spray device, and

a flow path switcher that is provided between said heat exchanger and said spray device to selectively communicate one of said main flow path and said sub-flow path to said heat exchanger.

38. (Original) The washing apparatus according to claim 37, wherein said flow rate adjuster and said flow path switcher are integrally formed.

39. (Original) The washing apparatus according to claim 37, wherein said sub-flow path is provided so as to introduce the fluid into a surface of said spray device.

40. (Original) The washing apparatus according to claim 35, further comprising a bypass flow path that is provided so as to branch off from the downstream of said heat exchanger and to which the fluid discharged from said heat exchanger is supplied at the time of the operation for washing said heat exchanger.

41. (Original) The washing apparatus according to claim 35, further comprising a switch for issuing a command to perform the operation for washing said heat exchanger,

said flow rate adjuster adjusting the flow rate of the fluid supplied to said heat exchanger in response to an operation of said switch such that the flow rate of the fluid supplied to said heat exchanger is higher than that at the time of the operation for washing the human body by said spray device.

42. (Original) The washing apparatus according to claim 35, further comprising a toilet seat, and a seating detector that detects seating on said toilet seat, said flow rate adjuster not adjusting the flow rate at the time of the operation for washing said heat exchanger when said seating detector detects the seating.

43. (Original) The washing apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said flow rate adjuster adjusts the flow rate of the fluid supplied to said heat exchanger such that after the operation for washing the human body by said spray device, the flow rate of the fluid supplied to said heat exchanger is higher than that at the time of the operation for washing the human body by said spray device.

44. (Original) The washing apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said washing apparatus is mounted on a toilet bowl, and further comprising a human body detector that detects the human body employing said toilet bowl, said flow rate adjuster not adjusting the flow rate at the time of the operation for washing said heat exchanger when said human body detector detects the human body.

45. (Original) The washing apparatus according to claim 35, further comprising a power controller that changes power supplied to said heat exchanger at the time of the operation for washing said heat exchanger.

46. (Original) A washing apparatus that sprays a fluid supplied from a water supply source on a portion to be washed of the human body, comprising:

a heat exchanger that heats the fluid supplied from said water supply source; and

a spray device that sprays the fluid heated by said heat exchanger on said human body,

said heat exchanger comprising a case, and

a heating element accommodated in said case,

a flow path being formed between an outer surface of said heating element and an inner surface of said case,

said heat exchanger further comprising a flow velocity conversion mechanism that changes a flow velocity in at least a part of said flow path.

47. (Original) A washing apparatus that sprays a fluid supplied from a water supply source on a portion to be washed of the human body, comprising:

a heat exchanger that heats the fluid supplied from said water supply source; and

a spray device that sprays the fluid heated by said heat exchanger on said human body,

said heat exchanger comprising a case, and

a heating element accommodated in said case,

a flow path being formed between an outer surface of said heating element and an inner surface of said case, and

said heat exchanger further comprising a fluid reducing material for lowering an oxidation/reduction potential of the fluid within said flow path.

48. (Original) A washing apparatus that sprays a fluid supplied from a water supply source on a portion to be washed of the human body, comprising:

a heat exchanger that heats the fluid supplied from said water supply source; and

a spray device that sprays the fluid heated by said heat exchanger on said human body;

said heat exchanger comprising a case, and

a heating element accommodated in said case,

a flow path being formed between an outer surface of said heating element and an inner surface of said case,

said heat exchanger further comprising an impurity removal mechanism that physically removes impurities within said fluid.

49. (Original) A washing apparatus that washes a washing object using a fluid supplied from a water supply source, comprising:

a washing tub accommodating said washing object;

a heat exchanger that heats the fluid supplied from said water supply source; and

a supply device that supplies the fluid heated by said heat exchanger to said washing tub,

said heat exchanger comprising a case, and

a heating element accommodated in said case,

a flow path being formed between an outer surface of said heating element and an inner surface of said case,

said heat exchanger further comprising a flow velocity conversion mechanism that changes a flow velocity in at least a part of said flow path.

50. (Original) A washing apparatus that washes a washing object using a fluid supplied from a water supply source, comprising:

a washing tub accommodating said washing object;

a heat exchanger that heats the fluid supplied from said water supply source; and

a supply device that supplies the fluid heated by said heat exchanger to said washing tub,

said heat exchanger comprising a case, and

a heating element accommodated in said case,

a flow path being formed between an outer surface of said heating element and an inner surface of said case,

said heat exchanger further comprising a fluid reducing material for lowering an oxidation/reduction potential of the fluid within said flow path.

51. (Original) A washing apparatus that washes a washing object using a fluid supplied from a water supply source, comprising:

a washing tub accommodating said washing object;

a heat exchanger that heats the fluid supplied from said water supply source; and

a supply device that supplies the fluid heated by said heat exchanger to said washing tub,

said heat exchanger comprising a case, and

a heating element accommodated in said case,

a flow path being formed between an outer surface of said heating element and an inner surface of said case,

said heat exchanger further comprising an impurity removal mechanism that physically removes impurities within said fluid.